

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

After entry of this amendment, claims 1, 4-12, 15-24, 27-40, and 70 will remain pending in this application. Claims 2-3, 13-14, 25-26, 69, and 71-72 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 4-5, 12, 15-16, 24, 27-28, 35-40, and 70 have been amended. Support for the amended claims can be found in the specification. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Loughmiller et al., United States patent number 4,914,605. These rejections have been obviated by the above amendments.

Claims 69-72 are objected to but would be allowed if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, claim 1 has been amended to include the elements of claims 69, 2, and 3; claim 12 has been amended to include the elements of claims 71, 13, and 14; and claim 24 has been amended to include the elements of claims 72, 25, and 26.

Claims 35-40 have been amended and should be allowed for similar reasons as claims 1, 12, and 24.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal notice of allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

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PATENT

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,

/ J. Matthew Zigmant /

J. Matthew Zigmant
Reg. No. 44,005

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 415-576-0200
Fax: 415-576-0300
JMZ:deb
61773359 v1